Canadian Helps Bermuda Find 'Ship of Destiny'

BERMUDA—A retired Canadian naval engineer headed the research team that has identified remains of an early 17th century wreck found off these coral islands as the Sea Venture — Bermuda's "ship of destiny."

For three years, P. M. Wright, now a permanent Bermuda resident, painstakingly searched through old documents for information on the English emigrant ship that brought the first settlers to Bermuda 350 years ago and was wrecked somewhere off the coast.

All he was able to determine was that Sea Venture was "an English shippe of 300 tonnes," and that she was built as Aldeburgh, Suffolk, England, sometime between 1603 and 1609.

DWARFED MAYFLOWER

She was probably the first full rigged British ship to cross the Atlantic, dwarfing the Mayflower, Half Moon and Susan Constant that brought first settlers to Massachusetts, New York and Virginia in the early 1600's.

"I wanted to find out what the Sea Venture looked like," said Mr. Wright. "People here didn't seem to know whether their 'ship of destiny' resembled Noah's Ark or the Flying Dutchman."

Knowing the tonnage of the Sea Venture and that all ships of that period were built according to the same formula, he was able to reconstruct a scale model.

WRECK LOCATED

Then, last Oct. 18 the skelton of an old wreck was located on the reefs about three quarters of a mile offshore, on the eastern coast of Bermuda.

A skin diver descended to the sandy bottom, some 35 feet down, and spotted piles of flint, used as ballast in 16th and 17th century ships. A little further on, between two heads of coral, he saw the faint outlines of the keel and ribs of the ship etched in the sand.

News of the discovery—a discovery of more importance to Bermuda than the treasure of all the Spanish galleons sunk in these waters—gives new and deeper meaning to the 350th anniversary of this oldest of British colonies.

LANDING MARKED

Celebrations this year are marking the landing of 150 settlers from this very ship, the Sea Venture, in 1609.

Salvage operations produced pieces of pottery, cannon balls, part of an axe handle, a six-inch pewter spoon and other articles. With a short length of wood from the wreck skeleton, they were sent off to the Smithsonian Institute for analysis. The report indicated all were of the late 16th and 17th century.

All could have been from the Sea Venture, but none of the salvaged articles were regarded as evidence enough to identify her.

FORMULA EXPLAINED

Then Mr. Wright produced his scale model. He explained to authorities the formula for ship construction then was that the distance from the forward end of the keel to the king timber, marking the ship's centre of buoyancy, was always one-third of the entire length of the keel.

Armed with this knowledge, the keel was determined as 75 feet, although only 54 feet of it—the front end—remained. From this, other dimensions were obtained: length on deck, 100 feet; beam 26½ feet, and depth, 15 feet.

Together with further evidence of the location, size of timbers, and the definitely English method of construction, authorities have accepted these findings as conclusive.

Retired Canadian naval engineer P. M. Wright, now resident of Bermuda, helps identify remains of wreck as the 17th century English emigrant ship which brought first settlers to islands in 1609. Ship was wrecked and location was unknown.

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Kids Still Prefer Bare Feet

Hawaii: Tropical Paradise —And No Parking Space!

By CARL ZIMMERMAN

HONOLULU, Hawaii (AP) —What's Hawaii like?

The Hawaiian Islands, which received approval of statehood from the U.S. House of Representatives Thursday, are, of course, a place lots of people dream of visiting.

They come for the climate (balmy all year round), the scenery (a flower-filled tropical paradise) and the people (as friendly and varied as you'll find anywhere).

BRIGHT SHIRTS

Hawaii's atmosphere is relaxed by North American standards. Men wear bright aloha shirts for almost any occasion. Kids still grumble when told to wear shoes to school. On the neighboring islands, you'll find sleepy villages—but don't look for grass huts.

Honolulu, the capital and principal city, is a bustling community. It has its traffic jams, big stores, used car lots —and no parking space.

What is left of the old Hawaii is monopolized by the tourist industry at Waikiki beach on the main island of Oahu and at three other major islands. Far more real today is a spirit of friendliness that makes Hawaii close to unique in a troubled world.

MANY RACES

An estimated 585,000 people live here and some 450,000 of them are on Oahu. They are of many races — Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Caucasian, Portugese, Korean and, of course, Hawaiian.

Race relations are not perfect. Clasified advertisements still appear with notices of "haoles (whites) only." Some social circles and residential areas exclude orientals. The largest business firms are controlled by Caucasians.

But Hawaii has had no race riots, no segregated schools, no Little Rocks.

WHITES IN MINORITY

In numbers, whites are in the minority. There are 220,000 Japanese, 99,000 Hawaiians and part Hawaiians, 74,000 Caucasians—exclusive of 60,000 service personnel—65,000 Filipinos and smaller groups of Koreans, Puerto Ricans and mixed races.

The race setup will be reflected in the men Hawaii sends to Congress as Senators and Representatives. Whether Democrat or Republican, white, Oriental or Hawaiian, they will unquestionably be outspoken opponents of discrimination.

LAND EXPENSIVE

Among Hawaii's most pressing problems is its land. On Oahu, land values are high and rising. One reason is that there are 790 persons per square mile, a greater density than in Puerto Rico.

The first European to visit Hawaii was Captain James Cook, the wide-ranging English navigator and explorer, in 1778. The following year, during a return visit, he died in a battle between his crew and Polynesian natives.

In 1795, King Kamehameha invaded the island of Oahu, where the city of Honolulu now stands. He came from the biggest of the outer islands of the Hawaiian chain. Hawaii itself. He defeated the local ruler and brought the islands under a single rule for the first time.

In 1893, Americans and Europeans resident here deposed Queen Lilioukalani in a bloodless revolution made possible by the landing of marines from the U.S. cruiser Boston. A provisional government was formed with the express aim of coming under the protection of the American flag.

Less than a decade later the first petition was presented to Congress requesting statehood.

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Toastmistress Closer to Gavel

First place in Friday's preliminary speakoff in the Golden Gavel competitions was awarded to Mrs. Pauline Machon of the Victoria Toastmistress Club.

Mrs. Machon and Robert Coates of the Victoria High School evening classes, who was second, will compete with eight other preliminary winners in a final speakoff for the Golden Gavel at 8 p.m. next Friday in the city hall council chambers.

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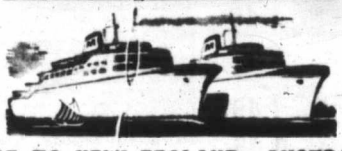

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All Aboard for North

Canadian National Railways, in answer to the beckoning call which Canada's north has to the modern adventurer, has again organized two six-day all-expense tours from Winnipeg to Churchill — on August 14 and 21.

People who would like to get to know the vast north country will be able to board the CNR's Hudson's Bay Special and explore the sub-arctic in comfort for $150.

The tours call for stop-overs at Dauphin, Flin Flon, Cranberry Portage and The Pas.

Leaving Winnipeg, the train heads for Dauphin, and a picnic lunch, a reception and a motor trip.

Next stop is Flin Flon where tourists will be taken on a 15-mile trip to Beaver Lake for a picnic and dance. Then on to Cranberry Portage, which is rapidly becoming a mecca for fishermen and hunters.

After a brief stop at The Pas, the train moves on to Wabowden, where travellers will get glimpses of lobstick pines and northern lights at night. There will also be superb scenery such as at beautiful Kettle Rapids and the boiling turbulent Nelson River.

At Churchill, the tourists will have lots to see, particularly the 200-year-old Prince of Wales Fort. Highlight of the Churchill visit will be two big dances, so popular that they are called, "the big events down north."

Home Town Tells Them Destination

A world-wide travel service has made a study of preference of tourists headed for Europe.

American Express now claims that a tourist's choice of countries to visit can be linked to his own region in Canada or the U.S.

For a start, it claims, those who book through Montreal and New Orleans usually make France their first choice.

But Toronto clients show a strong preference for Italy and France, then England, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Benelux and Scandinavian countries in that order.

Special interest in England is found predominantly among New Yorkers and in half a dozen other U.S. cities, including Seattle.

Toronto and Montreal are the only Canadian cities mentioned in the survey.

The Norwegian Workers Federation had 1,700 study circles with more than 16,000 participants in 1958.

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